NOTE XV.

TWO NEW ASIATIC SPECIES OF THE COLEOPTEROUS GENUS HELOTA

DESCRIBED BY

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Helota Donckieri, nov. spec. ♂ and ♀.

Strongly resembling *Helota Lesnei* Rits. from Kouy-Tcheou (China), of which the type-specimen (♂) is in the Natural History Museum at Paris [1]. The new species differs however from it by the sculpture of the elytra (the rows of raised warts or tubercles are less numerous in the new species: 5 in stead of 9), by the testaceous colour of the anterior angles of the prothorax and of the sterna, and in the male sex: by the larger pubescent spots on the middle of the metasternum, by the want of the acute tubercle on the middle of the hindborder of the punctured spot on the middle of the basal-ventral segment, by the otherwise shaped anterior- and posterior tibiae, etc.

Length of the ♂ 8 mm., that of the ♀ 9 mm. — Above very dark bronze with slight coppery tinges, the mandibles green, the anterior angles of the pronotum pale testaceous; opaque in consequence of a very dense punctuation, provided with numerous warts or tubercles of different size and shape, which partly are surrounded with blackish thus forming along the middle of each elytron an ill-defined, rather indistinct blackish vitta; the scape and the club of the antennae pale testaceous, the remaining joints pitchy brown; each elytron with two small round convex yellow spots, the anterior one slightly larger than the posterior. — The under surface of the head (with the exception of the throat), the lateral portions of the prosternum (with the exception of the anterior angles), and the elytral epipleurae metallic green; the throat, the sterna and the abdomen pale testaceous; the coxae are metallic green, the trochanters pitchy brown, the femora pale testaceous with the apical portion dark pitchy with a bright greenish bronze hue on the knees, the tibiae pale testaceous with the base and an incomplete ring just behind the middle dark pitchy or pitchy brown; the tarsi pitchy brown with the base of the clawjoint and that of claws pale testaceous.

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[1] Bulletin du Muséum d'hist. nat. de Paris, 1906, no. 4, p. 196.

The head is very densely punctured, the punctures on the narrowed front portion finer than those on the disk; on the disk two subparallel rather indistinct longitudinal elevations.

The prothorax is broader at the base than long, slightly narrowed in faintly curved lines towards the front margin which is curved backwards making the lateral angles protruding; the base bisinuate, the middle-lobe truncate, the lateral angles acute; the lateral margins very distinctly crenulate, each with 8 or 9 crenulations. The upper surface very densely punctured (the punctuation agreeing with that of the elytra) and provided with several strongly punctured raised patches and a few glossy tubercles which are arranged about in the same manner as in the allied species. The scutellum is strongly transverse, squarish, broadly impressed along the middle.

The elytra are broadest just before the anterior yellow spot, thence slightly narrowing towards the apices which are dehiscent and in the ♂ almost conjointly rounded and provided with a very minute sutural tooth, in the ♀ however rather sharply pointed; the lateral margins are indistinctly serrulate towards the base, more distinctly towards the apex. The elytra are very densely covered with punctures equal in size to those of the pronotum; the sutural interstices are separated from the disk by a row of deeply impressed punctures which are placed very close together. Besides with the two convex yellow spots each elytron is provided with 5 rows of tubercles, the tubercles of the two innermost rows are larger and more or less roundish, those of the two following rows are smaller and narrow, and those of the 5th or outermost row very small and narrow.

The under surface of the head (with the exception of the throat) is covered with deep punctures; on the sides of the prosternum the punctures are larger, evanescent however towards the front angles, the intercoxal part has raised lateral margins which are divergent towards the mesosternum; the sides of the metasternum, especially anteriorly, are deeply punctured. — The abdomen is very finely punctured, the punctures are more distinct towards the sides than along the middle.

♂. On the metasternum, at both sides of the impressed middle-line and at some distance from it, there is a shallow longitudinal impression which is provided with a narrow, slightly oblique streak of densely set erect rufous hairs [1]). The basal ventral segment has the space between the posterior coxae, till slightly beyond the middle of the segment, flattened and rather densely covered with strong punctures which partly bear an erect hair [2]). The 5th or apical ventral segment is broadly truncate at the end and provided with a large, ill-defined, very finely punctured impression. The anterior tibiae are curved, especially their inner margin and here, between the curvature and the apex, a small rounded lobe occurs; the posterior tibiae are straight, not compressed, slightly constricted at their apical half.

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1) These hairy spots are conspicuously larger in the new species than in *Lesnei*.

2) No acute tubercle on the middle of the hindborder of this punctured spot, as is present in *Lesnei*, but a small nearly impunctate space.

♀. A few large punctures at the base of the abdomen between the posterior coxae, and a small well-defined semicircular impression at the tip of the apical ventral segment. Metasternum and legs simple.

Hab. Yunnan. — A ♂ and a ♀ (Leyd. Mus.) received from Mr. H. Donckier, to whom I have dedicated this species.

Helota Westwoodii, nov. spec. ♀.

Allied to the foregoing species but somewhat broader, of a brighter colour and more shining owing to the less dense punctuation and to the larger and flatter tubercles along the middle of the elytra; the convex yellow elytral spots are slightly larger and the impression on the apex of the last ventral segment is transversely semi-ovate, not semi-circular.

Length 8—9 mm. — Above subshining, greenish bronze with bright coppery or purplish tinges, especially on the sutural interstices and along the sides, the mandibles green, the anterior angles of the pronotum pale testaceous, the scape and the club of the antennae pale testaceous, the remaining joints infuscate; each elytron with two small round convex yellow spots, the anterior one slightly larger than the posterior. — The undersurface of the head (except the throat), the lateral portions of the prosternum (with the exception of the front angles) and the elytral epipleurae metallic green; the throat, the sterna and the abdomen pale testaceous; the coxae are metallic green, the trochanters pitchy brown, the femora pale testaceous with the apical portion dark pitchy and with a metallic green hue on the knees; the tibiae pale testaceous with the base and an incomplete ring (or spot on the outside) just behind the middle dark pitchy or pitchy brown; the tarsi pitchy brown with the base of the clawjoint and that of the claws pale testaceous.

The head is coarsely punctured, the punctures on the front portion finer; on the disk two divergent longitudinal elevations.

The prothorax transverse, slightly narrowed in regularly convex lines towards the front margin which is curved backwards, making the lateral angles protruding; the base bisinuate, the middle-lobe subtruncate, the lateral angles acute; the lateral margins distinctly crenulate. The upper surface coarsely punctured, the punctures on the raised patches finer and wider apart. The scutellum strongly transverse, broadly impressed along the middle.

The elytra are broadest just before the anterior yellow spot, thence slightly narrowing and, near the apex, more strongly narrowed in a slightly concave line; the apices are dehiscent at the suture and acutely pointed; the lateral margins are distantly serrate towards the apex. The elytra are densely covered with punctures agreeing with those on the pronotum, but the punctures are slightly smaller on the scutellar region; the sutural interstices are impunctate and separated from the disk by a row of deeply impressed punctures. Besides with two convex yellow spots each elytron is provided with 5 rows of tubercles; the tubercles of the the 1st and 2nd row are the largests and rather flattened, those of the 3rd, 4th and 5th row are very narrow, the 5th row is not very distinct.

The under surface of the head (with the exception of the throat) is covered with deep punctures; on the sides of the prosternum the punctures are larger, evanescent however towards the front angles; the sides of the metasternum, especially anteriorly, are deeply punctured. The abdomen is very finely punctured, somewhat more strongly so towards the sides; the last ventral segment has at the apex a very distinct, transverse, semi-ovate impression. Metasternum and legs simple.

Hab. British Bhotan (L. Durel). — Two females from the collection of Mr. René Oberthür, one of which is now in the collection of the Leyden Museum.

Leyden Museum, November 1906.